

# Volunteer Louisiana

## 2020 Annual Report











**BILLY NUNGESSER,  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

The spirit of service is alive and well in Louisiana. From AmeriCorps programs to volunteers helping during times of disaster, Volunteer Louisiana brings people together to strengthen our communities and that has been especially important in these unprecedented times. The thousands of volunteers across Louisiana show the strength of Louisiana's character and the resilience of our spirit. I am proud of the great work and dedication of the Volunteer Louisiana Commission, staff, AmeriCorps members, and volunteers.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

2020 was a year of extraordinary challenges, from a global pandemic to a record number of named storms that ravaged communities throughout Louisiana.

COVID-19 was not only a major public health crisis, it also created unprecedented obstacles to service and volunteerism. The level of devastation in southwest Louisiana, within the context of a pandemic and social distancing requirements, created an additional set of unprecedented barriers to disaster recovery. But Louisianans once again demonstrated resilience in the face of adversity. Our AmeriCorps programs retooled to adapt to emerging needs, volunteers found ways to help their neighbors in need, and the spirit of service thrived under the most difficult of circumstances. I am proud of the role Volunteer Louisiana played in supporting our programs, partners, and volunteers these last 12 months, and look forward to brighter days in 2021.



**JUDD JEANSONNE,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



**KYLE WEDBERG, CHAIR  
VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA  
COMMISSION**

## COMMISSION CHAIR MESSAGE

2020- has there ever been a year where we have needed each other more with less access to one another. Seven named storms that found our shores, a health crisis of pandemic proportions, economic losses from a stretched economy, and so much lost. And yet, as 2020 closes, I have gratitude. I am grateful for all that have chosen to serve in this challenging year. I have gratitude for the civic actions of those in health care, education, faith communities, relief agencies, food banks, grocery stores, and all of the work that has been given at all levels of society. As one AmeriCorps program sunset in Calcasieu Parish another opened to support the recovery of the Lake Charles Region post storms. As students were educated virtually or in hybrid situations, there were AmeriCorps volunteers supporting teaching and learning. As homes needed to be rebuilt across the state, AmeriCorps members and volunteers stepped forward to help their neighbors. Thank you to those in this state that helped and the civic work of volunteerism that got us through this year. May our 2021 bring brighter days for all of Louisiana and its citizens.



# VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA

Volunteer Louisiana, the state service commission in the Office of Lieutenant Governor, was established in 1993 under the National and Community Service Trust Act.

Volunteer Louisiana's mission is to help meet the needs of Louisiana's citizens through volunteerism and national service by focusing on three main strategies identified in the 2019-2022 State Service Plan:

- Promote national service in Louisiana and develop a high-quality, diverse portfolio of AmeriCorps subgrantees
- Maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of volunteers in times of disaster
- Build a culture of service and volunteerism in Louisiana

Volunteer Louisiana is supported by grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service as well as State funding and in-kind contributions.

## Source of Funding

### Federal Funds:

AmeriCorps State Operating Grants	\$4,565,541
Segal Educational Awards	\$3,376,103
Commission Support Grant	\$265,000
Commission Investment Fund	\$169,096
Volunteer Generation Fund	\$267,876

<b>Total Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$8,643,616</b>
----------------------------	--------------------

### Local and Private Funds:

AmeriCorps State Program Match	\$5,218,552
--------------------------------	-------------

### State Funds:

State General Funds	\$126,225
State Inter-Agency Transfer	\$131,136
<b>Total State Funds</b>	<b>\$257,361</b>

## Other National Service in Louisiana

### Federal Funds:

AmeriCorps National Grants/NCCC	\$1,715,336
AmeriCorps VISTA	\$1,776,177
Senior Corps	\$4,307,774
Segal Education Awards	\$2,034,180

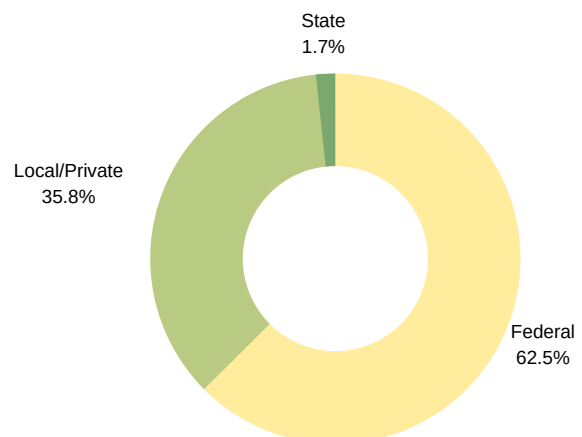
<b>Total Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$9,833,467</b>
----------------------------	--------------------

### Local and Private Funds:

AmeriCorps National, VISTA, Senior Corps Program Match	\$8,675,953
---	-------------

### State Funds:

\$0





# VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA 2020 RECAP

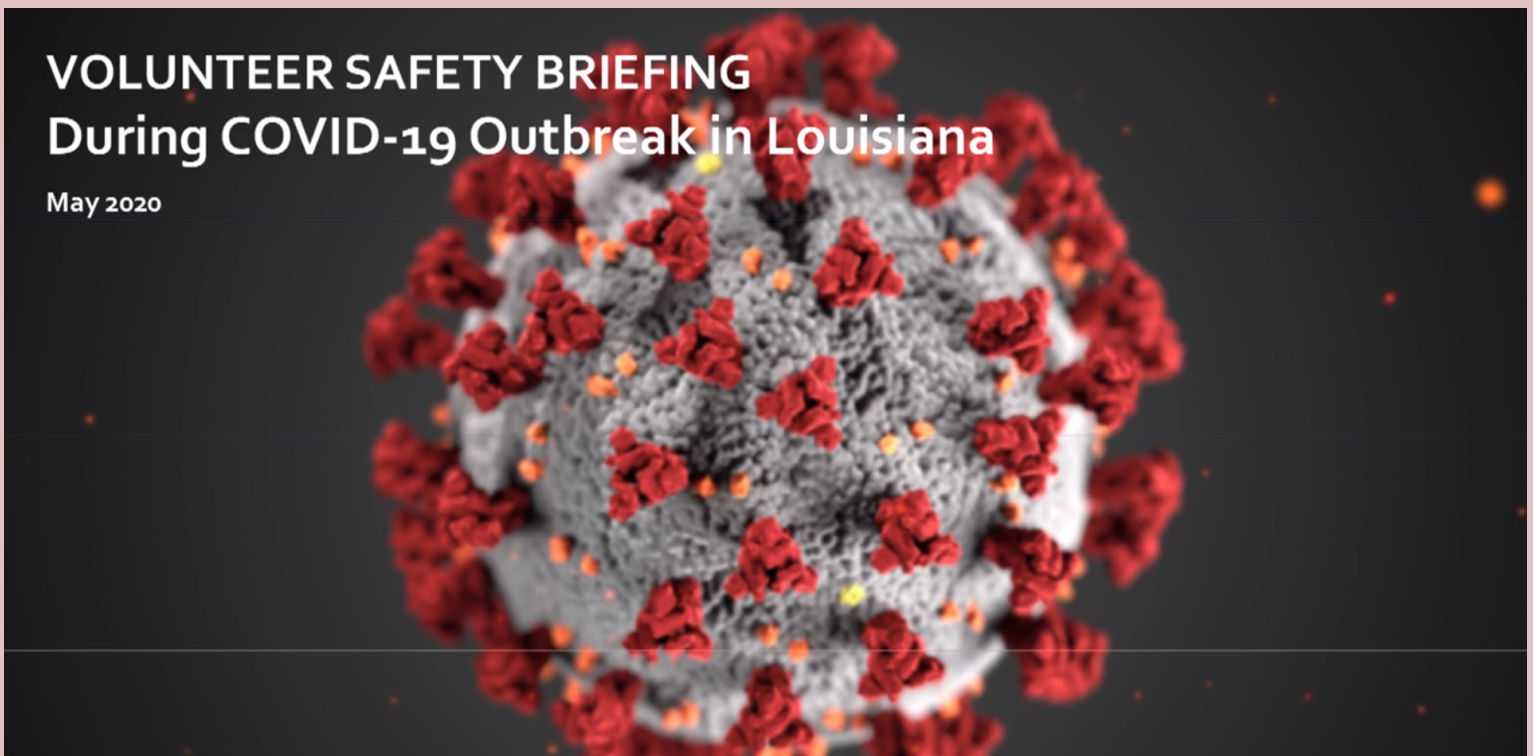




# COVID-19 RESPONSE

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone. Louisiana has not only had to deal with the COVID-19 Pandemic but has also endured a record hurricane season with extensive damage across the state. In our 2020 recap, we will share how Volunteer Louisiana programs have dealt with over nine months of continuous disaster situations and changing service scenarios.

With the COVID-19/Coronavirus pandemic hitting Louisiana in March of 2020, Volunteer Louisiana was able to step up and establish COVID safety guidelines for volunteering in Louisiana. These guidelines were created in collaboration with Commission, State, and local partners, and the guidelines were also turned into a 9-minute safety briefing video. Both the guidelines and video are accessible at <https://volunteerlouisiana.gov/disaster-services>.



With community needs for volunteer medical personnel and volunteers to help with food and essentials distributions during the COVID pandemic, Volunteer Louisiana was brought in to help communicate and coordinate university students from across the state who were interested in volunteering. Through a partnership with the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and the Louisiana Association of United Ways, the University created a student volunteer portal available to all public university students in Louisiana which allowed them to sign up and volunteer in their community. Student volunteers with medical experience were directed to the Louisiana Department of Health's volunteer program and volunteers without medical experience were directed to Volunteer Louisiana where they were connected to a variety of local volunteer needs in their community. From the spring to the summer, Volunteer Louisiana communicated with over 1,000 student volunteers, directing them to COVID-related volunteer needs.

# COVID-19 RESPONSE

## CERT CALLED TO ACTION

As part of the Volunteer Generation Fund Grant, Volunteer Louisiana has been training and building up Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) in collaboration with local governments and emergency management offices across Louisiana. These CERT teams were called to action to help with COVID-19 needs. CERT Teams from East Feliciana Parish and the City of Denham Springs supported local parish COVID drive-through testing sites and community mask distributions.





# COVID-19 RESPONSE

## AMERICORPS STATE PROGRAMS RESPOND

At the start of the coronavirus outbreak, AmeriCorps programs throughout Louisiana adapted their service models and interventions to meet emerging community needs.

### Boys & Girls Club of North Louisiana

AmeriCorps members worked with Rays of Sonshine volunteers to distribute meals in their community through their local food pantry.

### City Year New Orleans

When they could not be in the classroom, AmeriCorps members engaged and supported students through Google Hangouts, managing the chats, taking attendance, and providing academic assistance.

### Impact Lake Charles

Impact Lake Charles AmeriCorps members partnered with Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana to package food for those in need in their community.

### Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs

LAVetCorps AmeriCorps Navigators served their communities by serving at food banks, delivering meals, and staffing food drives.

### Rebuilding Together New Orleans

Staff and AmeriCorps members were hard at work supporting their friends and partners at HandsOn New Orleans to make sure seniors were cared for during the crisis.

### ShreveCorps

ShreveCorps AmeriCorps members packed emergency food boxes at the Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana.





# HURRICANES LAURA, DELTA AND ZETA

Volunteer Louisiana provided public communication and volunteer needs for over **40** Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) on the ground plus over **100** VOADs from across the state and nation through over **90** hurricane-related posts from August 23 to October 30, with some of our most popular posts reaching more than **12,000** people. Volunteer Louisiana has created resources to share with all of the organizations responding to disasters, including State Resources Flyer for hurricane survivors, as well as sharing notes and other helpful information with VOADs on the regular State VOAD calls. With the help of the Office of the Lt. Governor, two videos encouraging volunteers to help with disaster recovery efforts were created and have been widely shared on social media.



In response to several generator related deaths after Hurricane Laura, the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal began a generator safety campaign with signs, flyers, and media outreach. Through a partnership established by Volunteer Louisiana and the Office of State Fire Marshal, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) from East Feliciana, West Feliciana, City of Denham Spring, and the Ascension Amateur Radio Club traveled to southwest Louisiana to help spread generator safety information and post signs in the affected community.





# HURRICANES LAURA, DELTA AND ZETA

## AMERICORPS RESPONSE

AmeriCorps Disaster Response Teams (A-DRT) and teams from AmeriCorps NCCC served in Louisiana from October to December 2020 to help with disaster recovery efforts in the Lake Charles area after Hurricane Laura.

Teams provided the following:

- Conducted **195** damage assessments
- Mucked and gutted **66** structures
- Cleared **5,812** cubic yards of debris
- Removed **98.5** trees
- Provided **81** homes with temporary roof repair and tarping
- Helped collect and distribute **701,234** pounds of food and other supplies; assisting **9,882** individuals
- Served **336** meals





# NATIONAL SERVICE





# AMERISTORIES



Up2Us Sports - New Orleans  
Charaf Abourached, AmeriCorps Member

AmeriCorps State Program, Up2Us Sports engages, trains, and supports sports coaches to serve as mentors and role models to youth living in underserved communities. Coach Charaf Abourached, who serves at Langston Hughes Academy in New Orleans, was working with an 8th-grade student on the basketball team. Recognizing that this student had the potential to be a leader, Coach Charaf worked with her on how to be a team leader. With this encouragement, the student was able to lead and inspire her teammates and they won second place in their district!



Louisiana Conservation Corps  
Shawnee Sloat-Warren, AmeriCorps Member

Louisiana Conservation Corps member, Shawnee used her training and experience as an AmeriCorps member to build confidence, gain conservation and environmental experience, and work with the National Forest Service. Through her hard work and dedication, Shawnee was hired by the Forest Service as a Forestry Technician Apprentice for the Kistachie Winn District.



Teach for America - South Louisiana  
Qua' Henning, AmeriCorps Member

AmeriCorps Teach for America member Qua' Henning teaches at Jackson Elementary in East Feliciana Parish. Qua' implemented the IMPACT step team which serves as a mentoring group that channels students' energy through dance or step and allows the students to express themselves through song. Qua' designed IMPACT (Inspire Minorities to Promote Advocacy and Community Together) as a way to inspire and provide students an outlet to showcase their amazing talents.

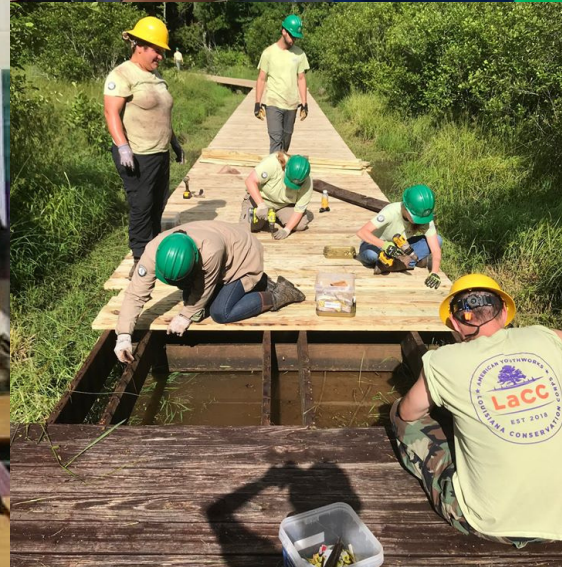
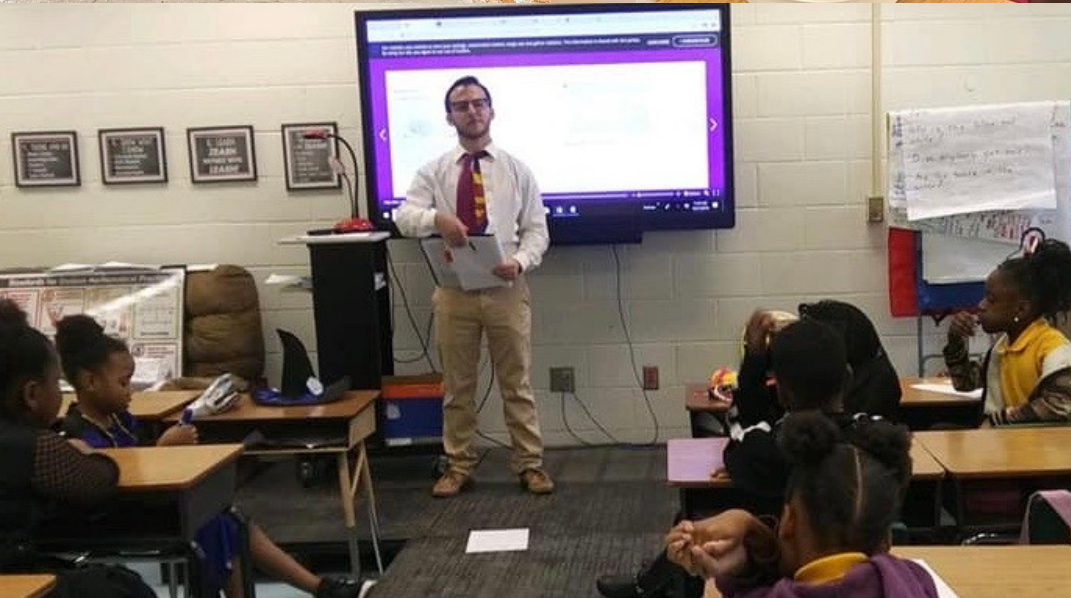


# AMERICORPS STATE PROGRAMS

For the **2019-2020 program year**, Volunteer Louisiana managed **943** AmeriCorps State members serving in **16** Programs across **25** parishes

## AmeriCorps State members:

- Served **16,959** students
- Served **2,010** veterans
- Transitioned **46** economically disadvantaged individuals into safe and affordable housing
- Led **2,495** individuals in programs and services intended to improve their health
- Generated **4,506** volunteers





# AMERICORPS STATE PROGRAMS



**American Youthworks - Louisiana Conservation Corps:** AmeriCorps members provide disaster relief, coastal restoration, and conservation of public land services across Louisiana.



**Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana:** AmeriCorps members provide programming and activities to improve academic engagement or social-emotional skills and address childhood obesity to at risk youth through education-based, health-related activities and mentoring during the school year and summer months in four parishes: Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry and Vermilion.



**Boys & Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge:** AmeriCorps members provide programming and activities to enable young people to reach their full potential as productive citizens through after school and summertime education-based and mentoring activities to at-risk children. Members are serving virtually in elementary and middle schools.



**Boys & Girls Clubs of North Louisiana:** AmeriCorps members improve educational and behavioral outcomes of students in low achieving elementary and middle school by assisting in preparation for and prospects for success in post-secondary education institutions for economically disadvantaged students in the north central Louisiana area.



**City Year Baton Rouge:** AmeriCorps members provide one-on-one support to students in 10 Baton Rouge public schools. Members help students improve their attendance, lead school-wide events, provide after school programming, and lead individual and small group tutoring sessions for students in Math and English Language Arts.



# AMERICORPS STATE PROGRAMS



**City Year New Orleans:** AmeriCorps members provide in-class and after-school support to academically challenged students in New Orleans, giving them the extra resources they need to get back on track in school.



**Communities In Schools:** AmeriCorps members assess the need and provide Integrated Student Support to disadvantaged, at-risk, under-served, disabled, and/or economically disadvantaged youth in 14 New Orleans public schools.



**Impact Lake Charles:** AmeriCorps members provide health and safety programming to students and parents in public schools and throughout Lake Charles to raise awareness, build skills, and develop best practices.



**Louisiana Vet Corps:** AmeriCorps members serve as peer mentors to veterans and military families in colleges and universities across Louisiana. Members connect veterans to LDVA veterans' assistance programs and training faculty and connect members to LDVA staff and community members.



**Rebuilding Together New Orleans:** AmeriCorps members engage in home 40 repair projects in the New Orleans area, transitioning 60 homeowners to safer and healthier housing conditions, and processing 200 new client applications.





# AMERICORPS STATE PROGRAMS



**Serve Louisiana:** AmeriCorps members provide capacity building services in Southeast Louisiana to increase the effectiveness of their partner organizations that serve local children, families, and communities in Baton Rouge and New Orleans.

**ShreveCorps:** AmeriCorps members cultivate community gardens at schools and community centers in food desert neighborhoods in Shreveport. Members also participate in Naomi's Urban Farm, a hunger and poverty alleviation program.

**Synergy, Education & Environment West Monroe:** AmeriCorps members provide after-school homework assistance and enrichment activities to students in grades 1-3 during the school year, and implement a summer youth program at the West Monroe Community Center.

**Teach for America:** AmeriCorps members are full time teachers who promote academic growth for students, engage as volunteers leaders within their schools and communities, and engage parents and community members as volunteers.

**University of Lafayette AmeriCorps:** AmeriCorps members engage in environmental stewardship through native plant restoration, invasive species removal, and other green infrastructure projects and engage with the community on the importance of environmental sustainability.

**Up2Us Sports:** AmeriCorps members target the childhood obesity epidemic by serving as sports-based youth development coaches for approximately 1,190 children living in under-served New Orleans neighborhoods.





# NATIONAL DAYS OF SERVICE

## MLK DAY OF SERVICE

Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser and Director of AmeriCorps Barbara Stewart joined Volunteer Louisiana and Rebuilding Together New Orleans (RTNO) for the 2020 MLK National Day of Service, which was also marked the 25th anniversary of this federal holiday. RTNO hosted the national Rebuilding Together office and 50 Rebuilding Together AmeriCorps members and volunteers from across the country for a week-long blitz build assisting local homeowners with needed repairs.



Groups all across Louisiana joined in on MLK National Day of Service. AmeriCorps members with Teach for America and Up2Us Sports in New Orleans gathered to plant trees, clean up neighborhoods, assist at local food banks and veterans' hospitals, and more.

In Baton Rouge, Teach for America, City Year Baton Rouge, Louisiana Conservation Corps, and Serve Louisiana members were all hands on deck as they participated in beautification projects.

On the Southwest side of Louisiana, Impact Lake Charles and the Boys & Girls Club of Acadiana members in Lake Charles and Lafayette served breakfast, lead in educational black history presentations, hosted bingo, and served at a local soup kitchen.

Lastly, our ShreveCorps members partnered with the surrounding community to make improvements at their local college's community garden.

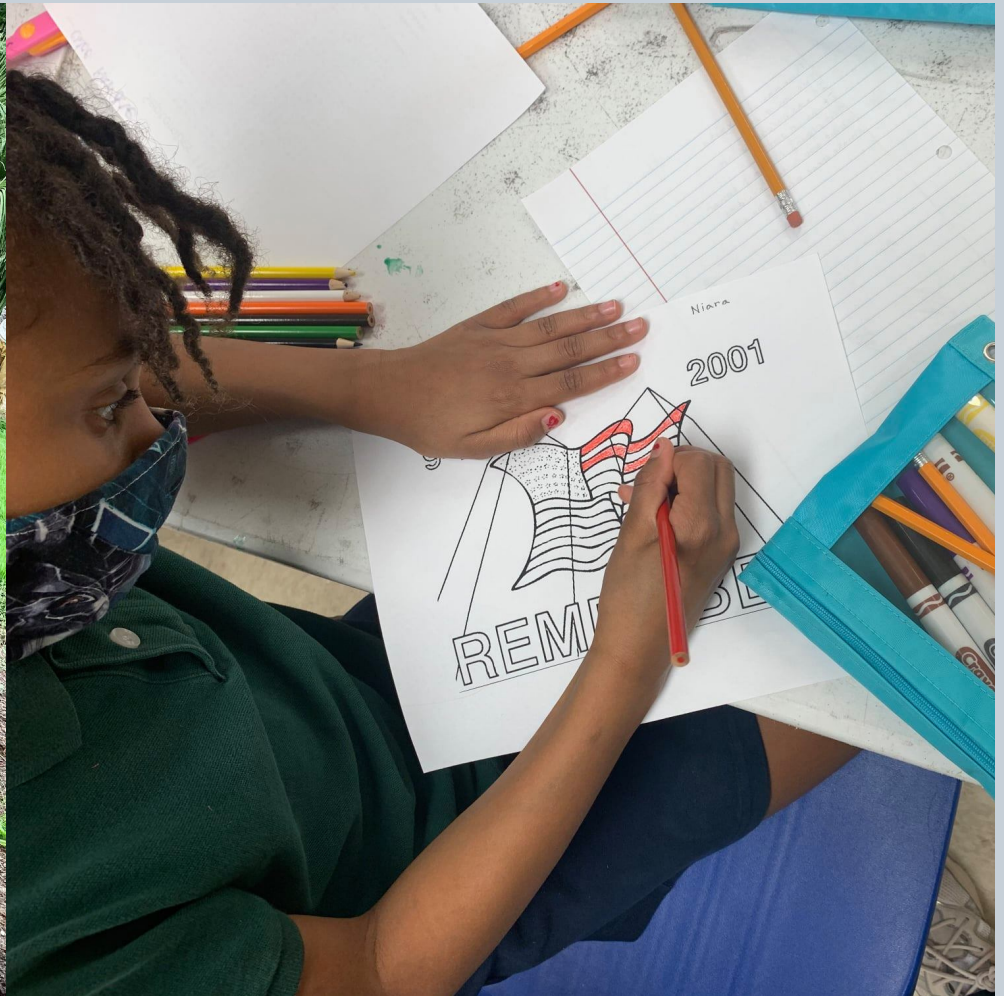




# NATIONAL DAYS OF SERVICE

## 9/11 DAY OF SERVICE

Though this year presented challenges to 9/11 Day of Service, several organizations found ways to honor the day and volunteer in their communities, including two of our AmeriCorps State Programs: Rebuilding Together New Orleans and Boys & Girls Club of Acadiana. Rebuilding Together New Orleans planted trees and flowers in City Park, while Boys & Girls Club of Acadiana led students in activities to learn more about 9/11 Remembrance Day in all five clubs.





# DISASTER SERVICES





# DISASTER SERVICES



Volunteer Louisiana continues to expand disaster volunteer capacity throughout the state with the Volunteer Generation Fund. Through this grant, communities are receiving disaster preparedness and response training, further building “ready to deploy” teams of volunteers.

In 2020, Volunteer Louisiana grew our role as a leader in the state of Louisiana for Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) development and emergency preparedness training. Disaster Services Specialist, Amanda Smith, became a member of the National CERT Association’s Board of Directors and also the FEMA designated State CERT coordinator. Through the CERT training program, Volunteer Louisiana also took on leadership roles with the Mississippi State University program “Ready in The Middle” and their “My Preparedness Initiative” (MyPI), and also established the first-ever Louisiana Youth Preparedness and Leadership Council.





# DISASTER SERVICES

Disaster volunteer training took a detour this year due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus pandemic. Several large training sessions were planned and had to be canceled. However, Volunteer Louisiana was able to create several virtual volunteer training options and continue with online volunteer trainings. Volunteer Louisiana created an online, webinar-style training library which includes the Basic Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, animal evacuation and sheltering training, and some COVID sheltering trainings in collaboration with the Louisiana State Animal Response Team and Louisiana American Red Cross.

In 2020; **400** volunteers completed almost **2,400** hours of training in disaster service topics. These newly trained volunteers represent over **50** organizations and are from over a dozen parishes.

With the virtual training library and the COVID safety training video, Volunteer Louisiana has received almost **300** unique viewers to the training materials.





# VOLUNTEERISM





# VOLUNTEERISM

Volunteer Louisiana continues to support and promote volunteerism throughout the state.

VolunteerLouisiana.gov is a one-stop-shop that connects volunteers with volunteer organizations. Volunteer Louisiana also provides opportunities to recognize volunteers from the local level with the **Louisiana Volunteer Service Award**, and state-wide recognition with the annual **Champions of Service Awards**. In collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Education, Volunteer Louisiana also helps promote youth volunteering through the **Community Service Diploma Endorsement**.



## COMMUNITY SERVICE DIPLOMA ENDORSEMENT

Louisiana Public High School Students may earn the Community Service Diploma Endorsement by volunteering in their community.

For more information, visit [louisianabelieves.com/courses/diploma-endorsements](https://louisianabelieves.com/courses/diploma-endorsements)



In 2020, Volunteer Louisiana has distributed **854** Louisiana Volunteer Service Awards across the state. In June of 2020; with the support of the Volunteer Louisiana Commission, the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) amended the volunteer service hours, moving from a cumulative formula for Freshman – Senior years, to a collective formula. This change allows students at any level in high school to report their service hours and be recognized if they reach or exceed the 80 minimum. Due to COVID and Louisiana schools closing and moving to virtual classes in March 2020 we do not have Diploma Endorsement numbers for the 2019-2020 academic year.



# VOLUNTEERISM

## The Champions of Service Awards

Annually, Volunteer Louisiana recognizes any person, group, or business that has made an outstanding contribution to their community. One Champion of Service is selected from each of six geographic regions throughout the state, along with an AmeriCorps champion, Senior Corps champion, and corporate volunteer champion.

During September and October, Volunteer Louisiana presented the Champions of Service award to all nine winners.





# VOLUNTEERISM

## *The 2020 Champions of Service Winners*



***Ethan Jeffus*** – Northwest Champion Ethan Jeffus began volunteering with his family at the age of five and since then he has made his mark on Minden. Ethan was selected for this award because of a project he started in high school. Ethan began collecting socks to give to the elderly in nursing homes during Christmas. The project became so successful that in its second year it grew to include Shreveport, Ruston, Bossier, and West Monroe.



***Karen Burks*** – Greater New Orleans Champion Karen Burks was selected because of her volunteer work with high school students. She teaches students financial principles, including the importance of banking, budgeting, and college savings.



***The Silver Hammers*** – Capital Area Champion the Silver Hammers are a group of retirees who embody the spirit of service and friendship. Over the past five years, they have volunteered over 12,650 hours with Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge. Thanks to them, hundreds of wheelchair ramps were built, about one every month, in addition to 150 homes that were rebuilt after flooding.



***Dan Forest*** – Northeast Champion Dan Forest Dan has a background in cosmetology and a heart for service. Dan volunteered for 27 years with the American Cancer Society's Look Good Feel Better program helping patients learn how to deal with hair loss and other side effects from treatment. Dan said for him it's not about awards, but the end results. Out of all of the things he has accomplished in his life, Dan says he wants to be remembered as the guy who helped cancer patients.



# VOLUNTEERISM



**June Mire** – Southwest Champion June Mire has lived the life of paying it forward, which is also the name of her all-volunteer run store. Paying It Forward began in her home, but she opened the store as the need and donations grew. They collect school uniforms year-round and bring them to local schools, organize an annual toy drive for Christmas, and assist neighbors who are in need of anything from diapers and food to shoes and bedding.



**John Hickson** - Southeast/North Shore Champion John Hickson is passionate about helping veterans, and that passion led him to volunteerism. Since 2017, John has catered a statewide event for homeless veterans with the Alexandria VA Health Care System. The event, named Homeless Stand Down, is a place for homeless veterans to receive meals, services, and resources. John continues to find ways to support homeless veterans in Louisiana.



**Zacchea Small**– AmeriCorps Champion Zacchea Small served with Teach For America South Louisiana in New Roads, LA. She is passionate about and dedicated to her students and is always trying to grow so she can be a better teacher for them.



**Shirley Williams** – Senior Corps Champion Shirley Williams has served as a Senior Corps Foster Grandparent for the last 17 years with Catholic Charities Diocese of Baton Rouge at the Discovery Head Start School.



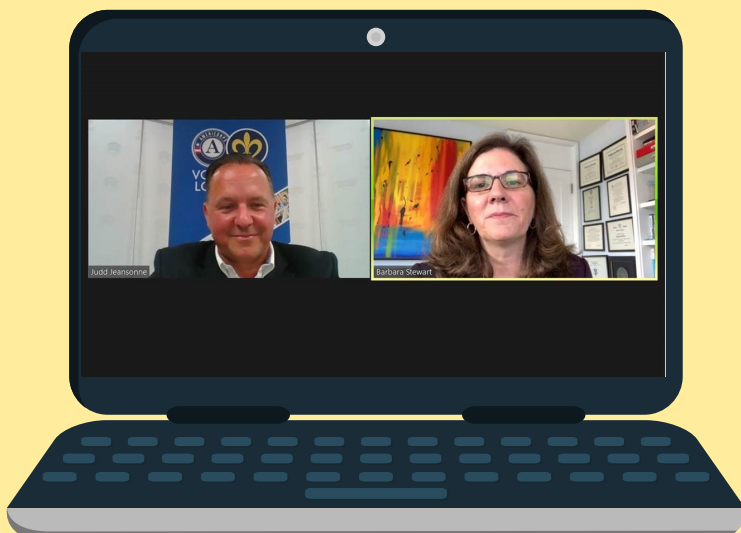
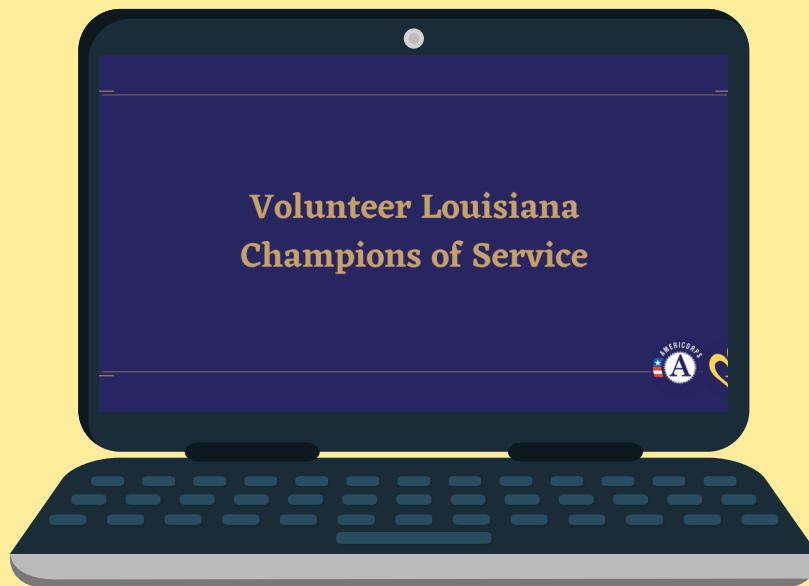
**Entergy Corporation**– Corporate Volunteer Champion Entergy Louisiana was awarded for their volunteer program, Community Connectors. Through this program they host a Super Tax Day, which pairs volunteers with individuals living in poverty.



# VOLUNTEERISM

## CHAMPIONS OF SERVICE CEREMONY

On October 23, Volunteer Louisiana officially recognized the 2020 Champions of Service through a virtual ceremony. The event began with a welcome from Volunteer Louisiana Executive Director Judd Jeansonne and Barbara Stewart, CEO of AmeriCorps, before recognizing the champions. In between the champion spotlights came messages from Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser and Volunteer Louisiana Commission Chair Kyle Wedberg. The ceremony closed with a message and song from two-time Grammy nominated artist Sean Ardoin.



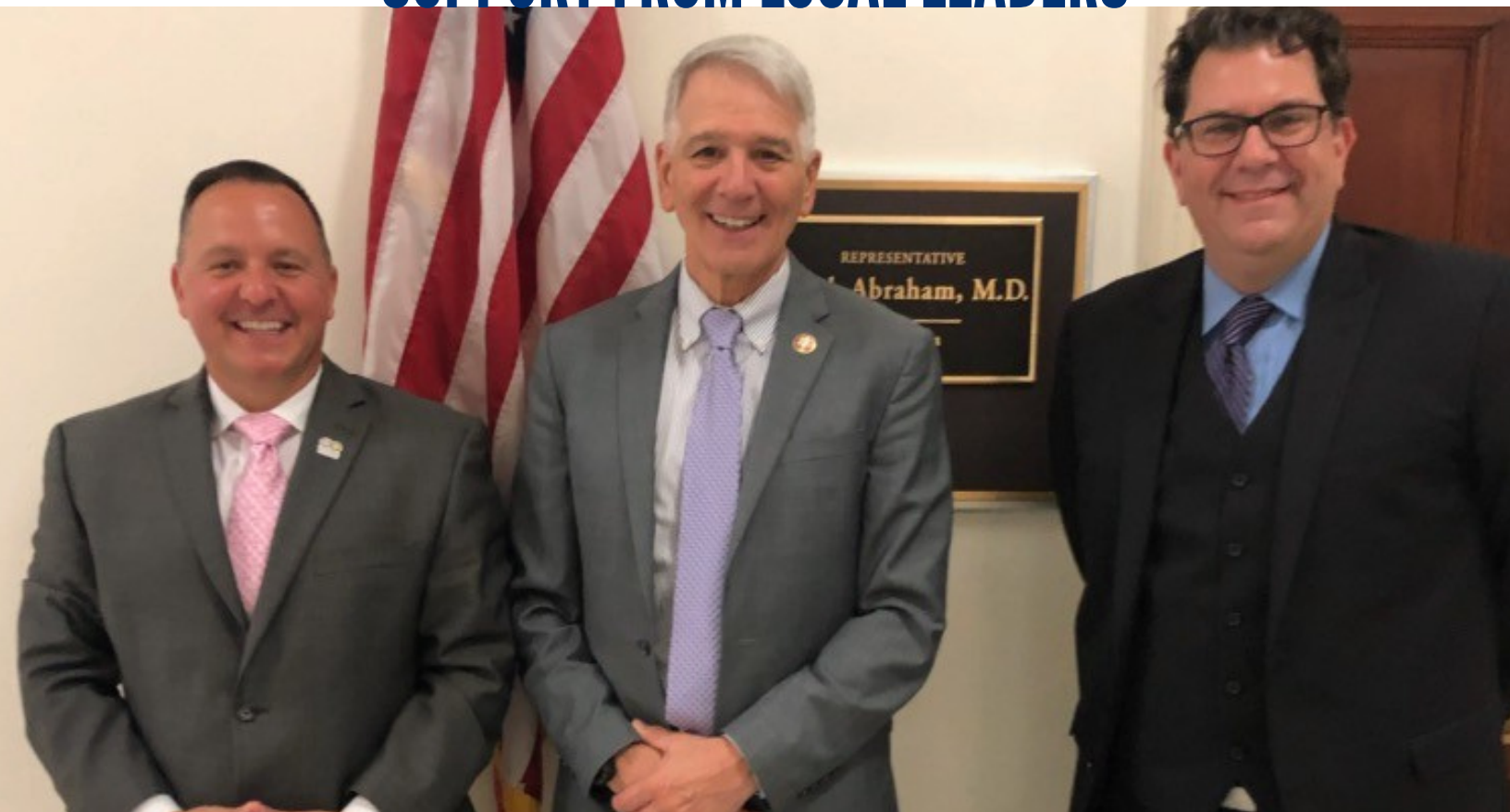


# VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA COMMISSION





# SUPPORT FROM LOCAL LEADERS



Volunteer Louisiana is proud of the bipartisan support for volunteerism and national service at every level of government in Louisiana. In an era so often defined by political conflict, service is something that brings Americans together to strengthen our communities and shows that what unites us is much stronger than what divides us.

Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser has been a champion for national service statewide and nationally through the National Lieutenant Governor's Association. Senator Bill Cassidy, Representative Garret Graves, and Senator John Kennedy serve on the National Service Caucus, and in February 2020, Volunteer Louisiana Executive Director Judd Jeanson and Commission Chair Kyle Wedberg traveled to D.C. to discuss the importance of national service with Louisiana elected officials, including Representative Ralph Abraham, Representative Cedric Richmond, and Representative Mike Johnson.





# COMMISSIONERS

The Volunteer Louisiana Commission consists of leaders from across the state who share an interest in volunteering and national service. They are the funding and decision-making body for AmeriCorps and other national service and volunteer initiatives in Louisiana. The Commission meets quarterly in Baton Rouge and Commissioners represent Volunteer Louisiana in their local communities.



***Kyle Wedberg, Chair: New Orleans***

New Orleans Center for Creative Arts  
President/CEO  
AmeriCorps Alumnus



***Kellie Duhon, Treasurer: Crowley***

Blue Cross Blue Shield of LA  
Corporate Giving Program Manager



***Amy Burris: Baton Rouge***

Raising Cane's  
Executive Assistant to CEO



***Ryan Haynie: Baton Rouge***

Haynie and Associates  
Principal



***Leslie Hill: Baton Rouge***

LA Department of Education  
Legislative and Community Liaison, Policy and Governmental Affairs

***Lee Arthur Jeter, Vice Chair: Shreveport***

Fuller Center for Housing NWLA  
Executive Director



***Patrick Lawler, Secretary: Baton Rouge***

Division of Administration  
Office of Planning and Budget  
State Budget Analyst  
AmeriCorps Alumnus



***Sarah Mouton Floyd: Monroe***

Children's Coalition for  
Northeast Louisiana  
Development Director



***Carissa Graves: Baton Rouge***

Cristo Rey Franciscan High School  
VP of Community Engagement  
AmeriCorps Alumnus



***Gwen Hilliard: Prairieville***

American Red Cross  
Regional Youth Engagement Leader







***Julie LaFleur: Lafayette***

Retired/Volunteer  
AmeriCorps Alumnus

***Mitzi Hochheiser: Baton Rouge***

Louisiana Department of Health  
Medicaid Deputy Director



***Matthew LaBorde: Alexandria***

Rapides Foundation  
Program Officer

***Angela Jouett: Lake Charles***

Calcasieu Parish Police Jury  
Health Initiatives and Strategic  
Partnerships, Calcasieu Medical  
Reserve Director



***Paul Pratt: Shreveport***

Paul Pratt Allstate  
Principal

***Shedonna Martin-Mason: Baton Rouge***

Life Source Hospice  
Community Relations and  
Volunteer Director



***Grant Shreiner: New Orleans***

Louisiana Association of  
Educators  
UniServ Director

***Wendy Primeaux: Lake Charles***

Catholic Charities Southwest Louisiana  
Case Management Supervisor



***DeRon Talley: Monroe***

Louisiana Small Business  
Devevelopment Center  
Marketing  
and Media Manager

***Gerren Sias: New Orleans/Baton Rouge***

Louisiana Appleseed  
Community Engagement Director



***Jay Blackmon-Williams: Baton Rouge***

East Baton Rouge Council on Aging  
Advocacy/Compliance Manager



**EX-Officio:**

**John Bel Edwards** - Governor; **Billy Nungesser** - Lieutenant Governor;  
**Lora Grady** - Corporation for National and Community Service State Office

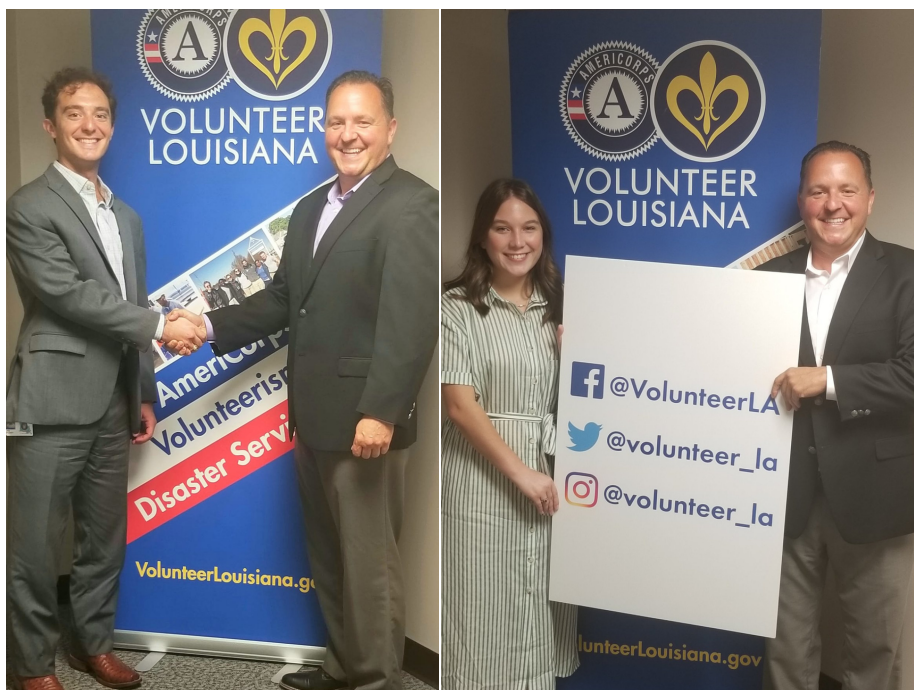


## VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA STAFF

From left to right: **Kori Chisham**, Director of Communications and Volunteer Outreach; **Jawonna Mason**, Fiscal Officer; Judd Jeansonne, Executive Director; **Stephanie Trahan**, Senior AmeriCorps Program Officer; **Amanda Smith**, Disaster Services Specialist



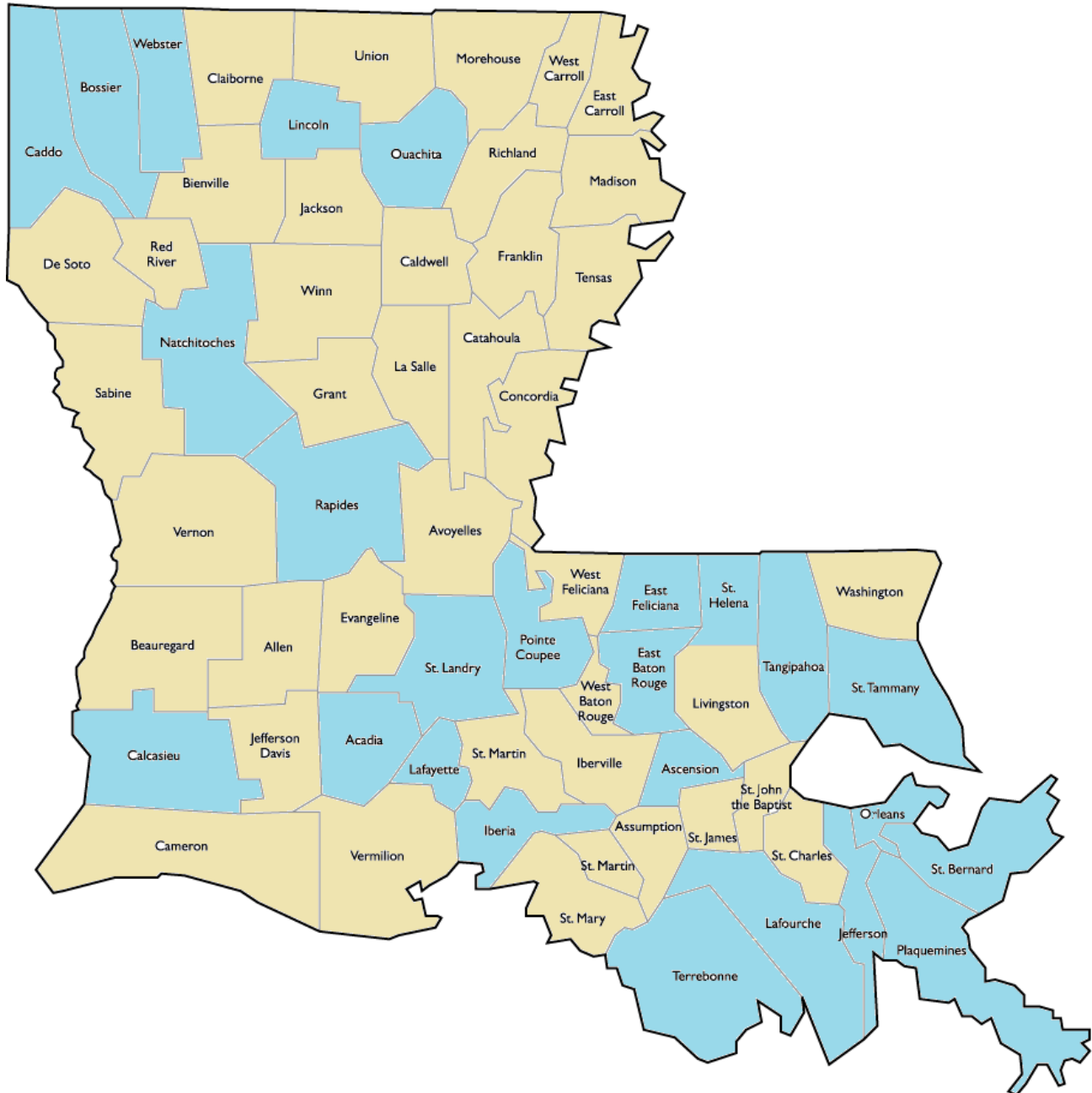
In 2020, Volunteer Louisiana welcomed two new staff members, **Jake Polansky**, AmeriCorps Program Officer, and **Emma Espenan**, Communications Officer.





# VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA

The blue parishes represent where AmeriCorps State Programs served during 2019-2020.









This public document was published at a total cost of \$840.40. Four hundred (300) copies of this public document were published in this printing at a cost of \$840.40. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints is \$840.40. This document was published by Volunteer Louisiana, P.O. Box 44243, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4243 to provide information to the public under authority of R.S. 49:1115. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.